Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate for an axial piston machine, wherein the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ is disk-shaped and has a central through-opening ~~(32)~~, which is encircled by a collar ~~(39)~~, which extends with an axial direction component from a first surface ~~(34, 34')~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~, and wherein the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ has a plurality of sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ are encircled in each case by a guide collar ~~(38)~~, which extends with an axial direction component from a second surface ~~(40)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction to the collar ~~(39)~~ of the central through-opening ~~(32)~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to claim 1,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ at least a portion of an inner face ~~(43)~~ of the guide collar ~~(38)~~ that in each case delimits the sliding-shoe-receiving opening ~~(36)~~ has the shape of a cylinder lateral surface.

3. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to claim 2,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the height of the cylinder lateral surface is a substantial fraction of an overall height (H) of the sliding-shoe-receiving opening ~~(36)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~, claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the first surface ~~(34, 34')~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ in a region, which surrounds the collar ~~(39)~~ in radial direction at the outside, is a flat surface.

5. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 4,~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ are completely encircled by a radially outer region ~~(52)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to claim 5, ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the radially outer region ~~(52)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ has a circular external contour ~~(50)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6,~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ a portion of an inner face ~~(41)~~ of the collar ~~(39)~~ that delimits the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ in radial direction has a spherical shape.

8. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 7,~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ at least one portion ~~(41')~~ of the inner face ~~(41)~~ of the collar that delimits the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ is hardened.

9. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 8,~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the collar ~~(39)~~ and the guide collars ~~(38)~~ are formed by shaping a flat basic body.

10. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to claim 9, ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the basic body is a circular disk.

11. (Currently Amended) The recoil ~~Recoil~~ plate according to ~~one of claims 1 to 10,~~ claim 1 ~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the collar ~~(39)~~ and the oppositely directed guide collars ~~(38)~~ are formed in a punching/embossing process.

12. (Currently Amended) An axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine comprising a cylinder drum (4), which rotates relative to a running surface ~~(28)~~, which is arranged inclined relative thereto and on which sliding shoes ~~(12)~~ are supported by a sliding face ~~(25)~~ in order to generate a reciprocating motion of pistons ~~(10)~~, which are axially displaceable in cylinder bores ~~(9)~~ of the cylinder drum ~~(4)~~, wherein the sliding shoes ~~(12)~~ during an induction stroke are held by means of a recoil plate ~~(24)~~ in abutment on the running face ~~(28)~~ and the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ for receiving the sliding shoes ~~(12)~~ has sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~, in each case a retaining face ~~(33)~~ of

the sliding shoe ~~(12)~~ that is oriented in the opposite direction to the sliding face ~~(25)~~ of the sliding shoes ~~(12)~~ abuts on a first surface ~~(34)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ and the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ is supported by an inner face ~~(41)~~ of a collar ~~(39)~~ that encircles a central through-opening ~~(32)~~ against a thrust bearing ~~(29)~~ and the collar ~~(39)~~ extends with an axial direction component from the first surface ~~(34)~~,

~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ are encircled in each case by a guide collar ~~(38)~~, which extends with an axial direction component from a second surface ~~(40)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction to the collar ~~(39)~~ of the central through-opening ~~(32)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to claim 12,

~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ at least a portion of an inner face ~~(43)~~ of the guide collar ~~(38)~~ that in each case delimits the sliding-shoe-receiving opening ~~(36)~~ has the shape of a cylinder lateral surface.

14. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to claim 13,

~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the height of the cylinder lateral surface is a substantial fraction of an overall height (H) of the sliding-shoe-receiving opening ~~(36)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 14,~~ claim 12

~~characterized in~~

wherein ~~that~~ the first surface ~~(34, 34')~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ in a region, which surrounds the collar ~~(39)~~ in radial direction at the outside, is a flat surface ~~(34')~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 15,~~ claim 12

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ are completely encircled by a radially outer region ~~(52)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to claim 16,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the radially outer region ~~(52)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~ has a circular external contour ~~(50)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 17,~~ claim 12

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ a portion of an inner face ~~(41)~~ of the collar ~~(39)~~ that delimits the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ in radial direction has a spherical shape.

19. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 18,~~ claim 12

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ at least a portion ~~(41')~~ of the inner face ~~(41)~~ of the collar ~~(39)~~ that delimits the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ is hardened.

20. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 19,~~ claim 12

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the collar ~~(39)~~ and the guide collars ~~(38)~~ are formed by shaping a flat basic body.

21. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to claim 20,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the basic body is a circular disk.

22. (Currently Amended) The axial ~~Axial~~ piston machine according to ~~one of claims 12 to 21,~~ claim 12

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the collar ~~(39)~~ and the oppositely directed guide collars ~~(38)~~ are formed in a punching/embossing process.

23. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ of manufacturing a recoil plate ~~(24)~~ for an axial piston machine ~~(1)~~ comprising the following

method steps:

- manufacture a disk-shaped basic body;
- punch sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~;

- punch a central through-opening ~~(32)~~;

- shape an inner edge of the disk-shaped basic body that delimits the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ into a collar ~~(39)~~ such that the collar ~~(39)~~ extends with an axial direction component from a first surface ~~(34)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~; and

- shape an edge of the disk-shaped basic body that in each case delimits the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ into in each case a guide collar ~~(38)~~ such that the guide collars ~~(38)~~ extend with an axial direction component from a second surface ~~(40)~~ of the recoil plate ~~(24)~~.

24. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 23,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ at least one portion ~~(41')~~ of an inner face ~~(41)~~ of the collar ~~(39)~~ is hardened.

25. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 24,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the portion ~~(41')~~ of the inner face ~~(41)~~ is hardened with the aid of a laser.

26. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~one of claims 23 to 25,~~ claim 23

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the edges of the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ and the inner edge of the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ are formed into the guide collars ~~(38)~~ and the collar ~~(39)~~ in a common embossing process.

27. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 26,

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ punching-out of the central through-opening ~~(32)~~ and of the sliding-shoe-receiving openings ~~(36)~~ and forming of the edges is carried out in a single operation in a punching/embossing process.

28. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~one of claims 23 to 27,~~ claim 23

~~**characterized in**~~

wherein ~~that~~ the first surface ~~(34)~~ of the disk-shaped basic body remote from the guide collars ~~(38)~~ is, after forming, machined in respect of its flatness and surface quality.